

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
January 31, 2014

Dates to Remember:

February 13, 2014	City Commission Workshop
February 17, 2014	City Commission Meeting
February 20, 2014	Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting – 12 noon

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- Code Enforcement opened five (5) new cases; two for overgrowth; one for fire safety; one for environmental issues; and one for chickens. Three (3) cases were found to be in compliance and closed.
- Aaron's selected contractor dropped off the plans for the tenant space located at 949 West Sugarland Hwy. The estimated completion is March and they are now hiring.
- The contractor for Dunkin Donuts is experiencing minor delays but still anticipates a March opening.

Golf Course Operations Director Ford reports:

- The number of play has continued to be up. The play from the Okeechobee City areas has really picked up. We believe that this is a combination of the poor conditions of other courses and the advertisement we have done in that area.
- Greens were spiked in two directions and fertilized.
- Staff completed the culvert removal behind # 11 green. Electric wires were found which made the removal a bit harder, but they were incased in PVC pipe and then strapped to a water line that was also running across that same area.
- Staff has also been trimming trees around the golf course.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- The Hendry County Libraries were honored to receive the donation from the Hendry County Education Task Force on Thursday, January 30th, 2014. The funds will be used to replace all the 2003 computers currently used by the public in all three Hendry County Libraries. Some of this fund will also be used to purchase electronic subscriptions for the library so customers can have access to digital products such as the Palm Beach Post online.
- By next Friday, a new copier will be installed in each Hendry County Library. With this machine, customers will be able to help themselves with their copying, printing, faxing, and other such needs. A new feature of this copier is that customers will now be able to pay into the copier's coin box for their various needs.

- All Hendry County Libraries will be closed next Wednesday, February 5, 2014 for staff development from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. The public has been notified.
- The Clewiston Library will host a volunteer appreciation luncheon in honor of our wonderful volunteers. This includes Ms. Joanne Stiles who worked with the library for several years and then continued her regular hours as a volunteer even after she was laid off. It also includes the Clewiston high School honor students who volunteer their time to tutor children in math, reading, and language arts, as part of the I HELP grant project.
- When it rains it pours! The Edison State College has asked permission for the Clewiston Public Library to be used as one of their remote testing sites. In exchange, the College will donate five (5) brand new laptops to the Library to be used for this purpose and any other purpose the Library sees fit. Thanks in advance to Jeff Gibbs, the Hendry Glades Director of Edison State College, and his team for making this a reality.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- We are experiencing a number of reports of theft from unsecured vehicles in the southwest area of town.
- A boat was stolen from a West Del Monte residence overnight Tuesday.
- We have tentatively replaced three of our four open patrol officer positions. The candidates are going through physical, drug screen and background investigations. The fourth opening will remain vacant.
- Lt. Pelham donned scuba gear and made a dive at the boat basin Tuesday in an effort to assist Public Works staff with the repair of the floating dock.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 1122** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 513** Complaints Investigated
 - 18** Arrests Made
 - 13** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 20** Red Light Camera Offenses
 - 68** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 11** Alarms Responded To
 - 4** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control Activity: It's been very cool dramatically reducing the mosquito activity.
- Street Maintenance: (1) The punch list of maintenance items at the boat basin is nearing completion. (2) A few black olive trees on Bond Street had to be removed because of damage to infrastructure. The roots were breaking the sidewalk, curbs and water lines. We will vacuum the soil and roots out of the hole using the street sweeper so we can pull the stumps with as little damage to the sidewalks as possible. We will replace the trees with a plant that is less intrusive but still add beauty to the area.
- Facility Maintenance: (1) Six contractors have discussed and picked up a quote package for the Library remodel. (2) The fuel island and warehouse were power washed. The fuel pump roof and tank are getting a fresh coat of paint this week. (3) Built filter cages for RO plant. (4) Working on security lights at Animal Control facility.
- Drainage Project on Haiti: Started digging on Monday, January 27.

- Golf Course Sign: (1) The sign packet was returned for additional information. (2) We started the ‘tournament score board’ for Golf Course this week.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- CHS Boys’ Soccer placed 2nd in their District. The Tigers travel to DeSoto County Thursday at 7:00 p.m. for regional semi-final action. The Tigers have played in 3 post season tournaments in the last 4 years; not bad for a program that is only 7 years old. GO TIGERS!
- Work nears completion on the batting cages on field #8 at Sugarland Sports Complex. We expect sod to be delivered and set this week and the hitting mat supports finished and installed as well. Thanks to all the City departments that assisted in this project and Rayburn Companies and Basquin Welding for all their help.
- CHS Softball will hold their annual Pre-Season Classic Jan. 30th on Field #8. First game begins on Thursday evening at 4:00 p.m. Come support the Lady Tigers as they begin their season against some of the areas premiere high school softball teams.
- Work on Stalls Field “bullpen mounds” and renovation/repairs will begin next week.
- CHS Baseball will play their “Home Opener” on February 13th against Glades Day.
- Electricity, lights and scoreboards have been checked this week on all game fields at Sugarland Sports Complex.
- Fields #8 and Stalls Field will be treated with Iron, Coran and liquid fertilizers beginning next week.
- Clewiston baseball & softball registration came to an end this week with 421 participants registered in this year’s program. The “skills” demonstration will begin Monday night, and continue throughout the week. For day and times for your child’s age group, please check www.clewistonrecreation.com.
- The tennis courts at the Civic Park are getting a much needed cleaning in anticipation of the upcoming CHS Tennis Team season. Thank you to Valentine Leyva for donating his time to help complete this task.
- Please contact the Youth Center at (863) 983-1492, “LIKE” us on Facebook or visit www.clewistonrecreation.com for all your recreational needs and information.

Utilities Department Director Williams reports:

- The Electric crew removed the Sky Dive banner and installed the FLW Banner this week and replaced 5 crosswalk signals on US 27.
- Work is moving forward with Dunkin Donuts to switch their service to 3 phase.
- A contractor will be here to perform a boring job on Ridgewood Avenue to repair an underground electric line.
- The Water/Sewer crew repaired several breaks this week on Haiti with the drainage project.
- Utilities Director Williams and Lead Lineman Mike Cox met with Peek Inc to discuss new traffic light boxes for US 27.
- A contractor has been hired to repair the traffic signal at the intersection of US 27 and W. C. Owen and is scheduled to be here mid-February.